NOAA Fisheries and the Coast: Exploring Opportunities for a National Working Waterfronts Policy?

Tacoma, WA

Panelists

- Linda Behnken
 - Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
- Sebastian Belle
 - Maine Aquaculture Association
- Jennifer Steger
 - NOAA Restoration Center, Pacific Northwest & Alaska
- Johnny Williams
 - Williams Boat Service, Galveston, Texas
- Keith Rizzardi
 - Chairman, U.S. Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Connecting NOAA Fisheries with Working Waterfronts

50 C.F.R. §600.310 National Standard 1--Optimum Yield

(a) Standard 1. Conservation and management measures shall *prevent overfishing* while achieving, on a continuing basis, *the optimum yield* (OY) from each fishery for the U.S. fishing industry.

But what is "optimum yield?"

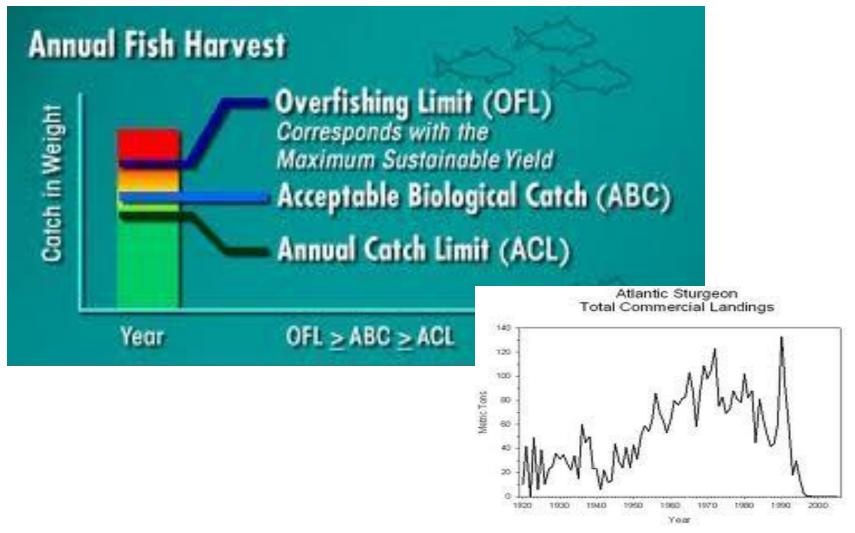


Figure 42.2. Total U.S. commercial landings (mt) of Atlantic sturgeon.

50 C.F.R. §600.310

National Standard 8--Communities

- (a) Standard 8. Conservation and management measures shall... take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities by utilizing economic and social data that are based upon the best scientific information available in order to:
- (1) Provide for *sustained participation* of such communities; and
- (2) To the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities.

A National Working Waterfronts Policy: Panel Discussion

Stakeholder Perspective	Topics to Explore
Commercial fisheries	Benefits to working waterfronts
Recreational fisheries	Major concerns and challenges
Aquaculture industry	Specific recommendations
Habitat protection	Potential for policy consensus

Presentations

- Williams (Recreational fishing)
 - Powerful economic impact, but losing access due to inadequate data and rigid rebuilding process
- Behnke (Commercial fishing)
 - Regulations incentivize industry consolidation, need for better access, baseline data
- Belle (Aquaculture)
 - Demographics demand food, viable alternative to commercial fishing in coastal communities
- Steger (Habitat)
 - More habitat, more fish, invest as a tool to enhance fishery, implement Habitat Blueprint

Themes

- DATA & METHODS: more precision in socioeconomic data to support regulatory decision making
- THE FEDERAL FAMILY: improved coordination between federal agencies, especially on strategically locating mitigation
- NOAA OUTREACH: enhanced federal outreach to and communication with state and local governments and stakeholders

Existing MSA Regulations 50 C.F.R. §600.310(I)(4)

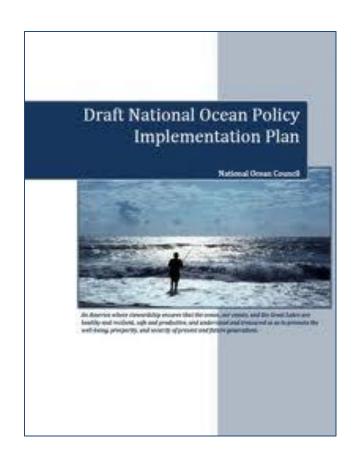
• (4) National Standard 8 (see § 600.345). National Standard 8 directs the Councils to apply economic and social factors towards sustained participation of fishing communities and to the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities within the context of preventing overfishing and rebuilding overfished stocks as required under National Standard 1. Therefore, calculation of OY as reduced from MSY should include economic and social factors, but the combination of management measures chosen to achieve the OY must principally be designed to prevent overfishing and rebuild overfished stocks.

The National Ocean Policy

Executive Order

 Final Recommendations of the Interagency Ocean
 Policy Task Force

 Draft National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan



The National Ocean Policy & Ecosystem Based Management

- Develop and initiate an <u>outreach and education</u> program to inform stakeholders and the public of the benefits and principles of EBM...
- Develop introductory and advanced <u>training</u> materials <u>for Federal managers</u> and scientists to obtain a <u>common understanding of EBM</u> principles, best practices, and latest decision support tools...

The National Ocean Policy & Economic Opportunity

• Scientific information will increase opportunities for economic growth, create new jobs, and optimize traditional ocean uses such as working waterfronts, sustainable fisheries, tourism, and domestically produced energy.

 <u>Collaboration</u> among Federal government agencies, private industry, and other partners will facilitate the transition from basic research to applying the findings in commercial markets.

The National Ocean Policy & Coastal Habitat Restoration

 The capability of coastal habitats to sequester carbon is an important but undervalued ecosystem service. It could provide incentives for increased protection of these habitats. This capability requires increased protection and restoration of salt marsh, mangrove, and sea grass habitats and better implementation of mitigation requirements for impacts to these systems.

Working Waterfronts Toolkit

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Financing



- Land Conservation, Transfer & Acquisition
- Mapping, Inventory, Study
- Planning, Policy & Regulation
- Taxation
- Zoning



The Long and Winding Road ...

